

words, the consideration of amendments might cease at a particular time. Let's say there is 1 hour on the rule, 1 hour on the general debate, and 6 hours on the amendment process.

With another 4 hours of walking time—voting time—we could consume altogether up to 12 hours on the clock. At the end of the 6-hour debate period for amendments, not counting the time consumed in voting, no further amendments could be considered at that point. It would benefit Members if they have significant amendments to decide which of those are truly significant and lay them out so that Members can be to heard on those amendments. That would be fair to your side.

Mr. VOLKMER. I thank the gentleman.

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION ON MAKING GOVERNMENT MORE EFFICIENT

(Mr. FOLEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FOLEY. Mr. Speaker, since I spoke here a week and a half ago about the outrageous amounts of money this body spends to provide Members of Congress with their own gold embossed set of code books, I received a great deal of support from colleagues on both sides of the aisle.

Today I will introduce a resolution that will make a few simple changes in the way Members obtain the United States Code book. First of all, this resolution will not prevent Members from obtaining the laws of this land for their use as legislators.

Instead, the measure will actually expand options for obtaining the code. For instance, if they choose, Members can purchase the entire code for \$37 on CD-ROM, or they can obtain the Government printed version of the code for a fraction of the cost. If they really want these gold books, buy them out of your own office account, not the Clerk's contingency fund.

Mr. Speaker, today is the 81st anniversary of the 16th amendment which gave the power of government to tax. Boy, have we taxed, and, boy, have we spent.

To people inside the beltway, saving half a billion dollars may be small and minuscule. To me it is a lot of money. To the taxpayers it is a lot of money.

I urge you to support my resolution on making Government more efficient.

SUPPORT AN INCREASE IN THE MINIMUM WAGE

(Mr. KLINK asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KLINK. Mr. Speaker, today the President of the United States set forward a very bold plan that is overdue, and that is to raise the minimum wage for workers in this Nation who have

steadily seen the erosion of their ability to support themselves and their families.

The actual minimum wage, when adjusted for inflation, has fallen 50 cents just since 1991, and it is 27 percent less than it was back in 1979.

I ask Members on both sides, Mr. Speaker, to support the President in this increase in the minimum wage, because it is needed. It is needed for people in my district.

I can remember back when we were trying to push the earned income tax credit as a part of President's budget. We got no votes from the other side, yet 26,000 families in my area that has been devastated by unemployment were affected by that. It helped those families to help themselves in this day and age when everybody is talking about welfare reform.

We cannot say that we can make millions of dollars on book deals when we are in Congress but we cannot have 45 cents for the American worker. We cannot say Members of Congress can go play golf with lobbyists and can have free dinners but we cannot have 45 cents for the American workers.

I laud the President, Mr. Speaker, and ask the support of both sides of the aisle.

A GREAT BIRTHDAY PRESENT FOR RONALD REAGAN

(Mr. HAYWORTH asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HAYWORTH. Mr. Speaker, we are going to give Ronald Reagan a great present for his birthday on Monday, and in the process, we will also be giving a great gift to the American people, because we are finally going to pass a line-item veto, an idea that Ronald Reagan championed more than anyone else.

As usual, he was way ahead of his time. Say goodbye to studies on cow flatulence, say goodbye to Belgian endive research, and say goodbye to research on the sex lives of certain insects. Say hello to responsible government and accountability.

If only the former majority had given Mr. Reagan the line-item veto in the first place, we might not be in this deficit mess. He could have used it to cut out some of the \$219 billion in additional spending that the guardians of the old order added to his budget requests.

But it is better late than never.

Happy birthday, President Reagan, and this is your victory, and it is a victory for us all.

WHERE ARE THE JOBS PROGRAMS?

(Mr. TRAFICANT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, the economists say that the economy is great. My question, Mr. Speaker: Are these economists smoking dope or what? Orange County is bankrupt. The District of Columbia is bankrupt. The trade deficit hit a record of \$153 billion, and Americans keep getting pink slips.

Listen to this from the State of Washington to Kansas to Philadelphia, Boeing just laid off 7,000 workers.

Congress, it is jobs, living-wage jobs, and there is not a job program on the Republican side and there is not a job program on the Democrat side.

If there is any consolation, Mr. Speaker, Burger King is hiring, and I never heard of anybody that committed suicide by jumping out of a basement window.

WE ARE KEEPING OUR WORD WITH THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

(Mr. WHITFIELD asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WHITFIELD. Mr. Speaker, since January 4 this House has taken important steps to restore the credibility of this institution to the American people, and it is the American people who pay and provide the tax dollars for this Government to operate.

Here is what we have done in less than 1 month: We have enacted eight major reforms in the way Congress does business. We have passed a balanced budget amendment. We have passed legislation to end unfunded mandates to State and local governments. And today we move toward passage of a long-awaited line-item veto to eliminate waste and abuse in the Federal Government, and we are working hard, making important changes to continue this effort.

But more important, we are keeping our word with the American people, and that is what they expect.

THE MINIMUM WAGE: PUT WORKING PEOPLE FIRST

(Mr. FAZIO of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FAZIO of California. Mr. Speaker, we need to put working people first. The minimum wage increase proposed today will allow hard-working Americans the opportunity to take control of their future and secure for themselves and their families a place in America's middle class.

Too many Americans are struggling to make ends meet. They work longer hours for lower pay.

The average minimum-wage worker brings home about half of his or her family's income. Sixty-five percent of them are adults.

Providing people who are playing by the rules with more take-home pay will benefit not just a select few, it will